

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANAA 01200 161040Z

11

ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /130 W

----- 045449

R 151518Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3859

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

S E C R E T SANAA 1200

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, YS

SUBJ: MILITARY TAKE-OVER IN YAR

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

REF: STATE 126845

WE COMMEND QUALITY OF ASSESSMENT REFTEL. IT COMPETENTLY

SUMMARIZES AND ANALYZES COMPLEX SITUATION WHICH LED
TO RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT IRYANI AND SUBSEQUENT MILI-
TARY ASSUMPTION OF POWER. WE AGREE TO WITH PRIN-
CIPAL CONCLUSIONS. FOR THE RECORD, HOWEVER, THERE ARE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SANAA 01200 161040Z

SOME NUANCES ON WHICH WE WISH COMMENT.

2. PARA 3 DESCRIBED HAMDI ASSOCIATE FONMIN ASNAG AS FORMER ADEN LABOR LEADER WITH BA'ATHIST LINKS OF HIS OWN. WE THINK THIS LEAVES A SOMEWHAT FALSE FLAMOR OF ASNAG'S PRESENT POLITICAL ORIENTATION. WHILE AS A SENIOR AND CAPABLE POLITICIAN/STATESMAN HE IS CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN POLITICAL CONTACTS ACROSS THE SPECTRUM, APNAG HAS WITH MATURITY BECOME POLITICALLY MODERATE PRAGMATIST.

3. RE PARA 4, REPORT OF HAMDI QTE ROLE IN A PRIVATE COMMERCIAL SALE OF FRENCH ARMS TO PDRY UNQTE IS A CANARD NOW COMPLETELY DISPROVED.

4. RE PARA 7, WE THINK IT PREMATURE TO ASSUME ARMY/TRIBAL CLASHES WILL BE MORE LIKELY IN FUTURE. EVIDENT SAG SUPPORT FOR HAMDI MINIMIZES DANGER OF CLASHES. WE DO AGREE THERE IS INCREASED DANGER OF PDRY MEDDLING IN SOUTHERN YAR BUT NOTE FIRST AND WARMEST PLEDGES OF SUPPORT FOR NEW REGIME CAME FROM UNITS UNDER SHAF'I CONTROL IN SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF YAR.

5. RE PARA 8, WE BELIEVE THAT SINCE SAG HAS ACCEPTED HAMDI IT IS UNLIKELY CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR HIM BY BALKING AT RETENTION OF PRIMIN MAKKI PARTICULARLY SINCE LATTER WILL IN FUTURE HAVE AT BEST TOKEN AUTHORITY. FACT THAT HAMDI TOOK POWER IN SITUATION OF CONFLICT WITH SAUDI-SUPPORTED TRIBES WILL NOT HURT HIM NOW THAT SAG HAS APPARENTLY SWUNG SO FIRMLY TO HIS SIDE. AS NOTED IN OTHER MESSAGES, SAG SUPPORT CAN HAVE CONSTRUCTIVE EFFECT ON TRIBES WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN TROUBLESOME.

6. ON RELATIONS WITH PDRY, HAMDI WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE TOUGHER ON SUBVERSION. BY ITSELF, THIS COULD PRODUCE GREATER FRICTION. HOWEVER, HAMDI HAS STRESSED THT HE WILL APPROACH PDRY THROUGH QTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND NEGOTIATION UNQTE.

7. WE FEEL THERE IS IN DEPT'S ASSESSMENT A BIT TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON HAMDI'S RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND AND PIETY. THIS LEAVES READER WITH FLAVOR THAT HE MIGHT BE RELIGIOUS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SANAA 01200 161040Z

PURITAN AND FANATIC. THIS IS FAR FROM CASE. HAMDI DRINKS AND IS ANYTHING BUT AN ASCETIC IN PRIVATE LIFE. WITH US, HE HAS ON OCCASION ARGUED STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF YEMEN'S RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE AND AGAINST SAUDI ARABIA'S DOCTRINAIRE APPROACH TO ISLAM. NATIONALISM, MUCH MORE THAN RELIGION, IS THE KEY TO HAMDI'S NATURE.

8. RE ASSUMPTION THAT HAMDI QTE LIKELY EXPECT USG

TO ENSURE THAT YAR SECURITY NEEDS ARE MET AND MAY PREFER
TO DEAL WITH USG DIRECT UNQTE WE THINK THIS IS TRUE.
HAMDI IS AN ACTIVIST WHO IS NOT PREPARED BEAT ABOUT THE
BUSH--OR ACCEPT THIS FROM OTHERS.
CRAWFORD

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, POLITICAL STABILITY, ARMED FORCES, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANAA01200
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740156-0781
From: SANAA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740641/aaaabjdx.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 126845
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY TAKE-OVER IN YAR CINCEUR FOR POLAD
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, YE, YS, SA, (AL-HAMDI, IBRAHIM)
To: STATE JIDDA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005